

COLORADO LABOR FORCE REVIEW

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Colorado Trends

Some improvement was noted in State jobless statistics between February and March. Colorado's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell to 6.4 percent, down from the revised February mark of 6.6. That ends two straight months of rising unemployment and reflects the fact that most areas of the economy are still in good shape.

Unemployment remains higher than last year at this time, however. In March 1984, six percent of the labor force were without work. To this point, unemployment during each month of 1985 has been higher than the equivalent period last year.

The adjusted number of jobless

Coloradans fell by 3,400 during March to reach 110,100. Despite the improvement over the month, that is still 7,400 ahead of last year's mark.

This year's strong ski season contributed greatly to the current adjusted decline in the level of Colorado joblessness. Good snow conditions and industry promotions have extended operations at many resorts and maintained job levels in the State's ski counties well into April.

Mixed signals are still apparent in statistics on Colorado employment. The adjusted number of employed jobholders continued the slide that started in January, declining by 1,100 during the current period to reach 1,602,600. That is only 1,500 above the year-ago level.

The independent, monthly survey of employers, however, registered about 4,500 more new nonagricultural wage and salary jobs than might seasonally be expected in March. Additionally, annual job growth in the series is now over 32,000.

Both local and national economic indicators have displayed a combination of good news and bad news during recent months. This has largely mirrored the widely differing fortunes of the various sectors of the economy.

Due to a surge of entrants into the labor force, national joblessness remained level despite a marked increase in employment. The U.S. unemployment rate was 7.3 percent in March with 8.4 million out of work, unchanged from February. Employment totaled 107.1 million, up 430,000 over the month with most of the advance occurring among adult women. At 60.3 percent for March, the proportion of the civilian population with jobs was the highest ever recorded.

Most Colorado industries recorded actual job gains during the current period. The single exception was mining which showed a loss of 100 workers.

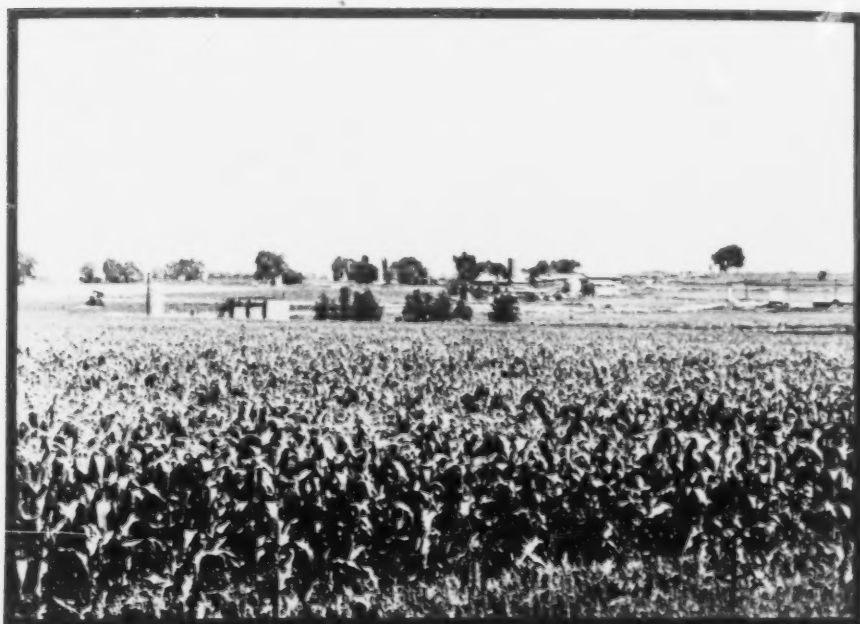
a number of layoffs have further hampered an already ailing mining industry in the State. The first few months of the year saw the closure of several gold and silver mines. More recently, the Western Slope experienced the loss of about 150 coal mining jobs. Low prices and high inventories are expected to hold down mining employment for some time to come. Near the end of April another 130 miners were furloughed from Wyoming Fuel's coal mine near Trinidad.

The largest employment growth during March was registered in services, agriculture and trade. Aided by a very good ski season the services industry performed much better than seasonally expected with 3,900 new jobs. An increase of 1,500 in business services led the list of advances. Agricultural employment grew by 3,300 as the usual preparations for spring activities continued. Boosted by 2,200 new workers in eating and drinking places, trade employment registered a 2,900 increase in March. This largely seasonal rebound makes up for the 2,900 jobs lost the prior month.

Expansion in the nonresidential portion contributed to a 2,500 gain in construction employment. The outlook for the construction industry appears good as non-building construction will receive a boost from recently released federal highway funds and signs are beginning to appear that indicate the demand for residential structures may be growing. The real estate and loan institution portions of finance, insurance and real estate were the primary movers in a 1,000 job gain for that industry. This suggests that the housing market will be active this summer.

Manufacturing managed a 700 job increase despite continued weakness in high-tech and the short-term layoff of some workers in primary and fabricated metals. Areas of high-tech manufacturing will remain soft for some time to come, but expansions are also taking place. Data General Corporation has recently announced a new production facility in Colorado Springs that is expected to employ about 600 workers when fully operational.

The spotty performance of the Colorado economy is expected to continue for at least the next few months. The service and trade industries will be picking up steam for the summer tourist season, but weakness in other segments of the economy will retard overall growth.



Employment in Colorado's agriculture industry reached 25,400 in March and will nearly double by July. This highly seasonal industry, however, is continuing its long-term slide with a 300 job loss from March 1984.

DENVER AREA UNEMPLOYMENT RATE DIPS SLIGHTLY IN MARCH

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in the **DENVER-BOULDER LMA** fell two-tenths of one percent in March to 5.5 percent from the 5.7 percent rate recorded in February. The number of jobless workers dropped 2,900 over the month to 56,000, but this is still 3,900 above the level of last March when 52,100 Metro residents were unemployed. In March 1984 the unemployment rate registered 5.1 percent. Total employment was up by only 500 during March and at 971,300 is only 800 higher than its year earlier level. Weakness in the mining sector and in selected areas of high-tech durable goods manufacturing continue to have an adverse impact on Denver's economic condition.

The sectors of mining and durable goods manufacturing have both lost jobs in the past year. Mining is down by 1,100 jobs with 700 of these coming in the depressed oil & gas subsector which has fallen from 20,700 to 20,000 in the most recent twelve month period. In addition, metal mining has lost 200 jobs in the Denver Area since one year ago. Durable goods manufacturing is below last year's level by 500 jobs with a loss of 3,900 jobs occurring in the computer orientated machinery (except electrical) subsector. This sector has now lost over 20 percent of its jobs over the past year. Transportation equipment, however, another durable goods subsector, remains strong with 2,100 new jobs added since March 1984.

In other news developments, the All Urban Consumer Price Index (CPI-U) for the Denver Area increased 1.3 percent from January to March 1985. The rise between January and March was the largest bi-monthly jump since May 1983. The greatest increases during the last two months occurred in the food and beverage, apparel and upkeep, and transportation components. Combined, these components accounted for almost all of the increase in the all items index.

AREA WAGE SURVEYS NOW AVAILABLE

The Area Wage Survey, Denver-Boulder, Colorado, Metropolitan Area, December 1984 (Bulletin 3025-67) has recently been released by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. This annual publication contains information on earnings for selected office, professional, technical, maintenance, custodial and material movement occupations in the six-county Metropolitan Denver Area.

The results of the survey show that Denver Area Workers received average pay increases in 1984 ranging from 2.0 percent for unskilled plant workers to 5.4 percent for industrial nurses. Among other major occupational groups, office clerical pay increases averaged 4.7 percent, data processing salaries rose 4.9 percent, while wages for skilled maintenance trades increased 3.2 percent. The increases for office clerical workers, industrial nurses and skilled maintenance trades were the lowest ever reported.

Copies of the Denver Survey may be obtained from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Publication Distribution, 911 Walnut Street, 15th Floor, Kansas City, Missouri 64106. The price is \$2.25 per copy. Make checks payable to the Superintendent of Documents.

More abbreviated reports on earnings are also available for the Colorado Springs Metropolitan Area (December 1984) and the Pueblo Metropolitan Area (September 1984). These publications are available free of charge from the above office of the Bureau of Labor Statistic while supplies last.

The Colorado Business Composite

The State's index of leading economic indicators fell 0.5 percent in March to 153.3. The loss came after four straight small monthly gains in the index. *March's movement in the Colorado Business Composite (CBC) suggests that there is still no hint of a turnaround on the horizon for Colorado's slow moving economy.* Four of the six leading economic indicators comprising the CBC declined over the month.

Employment data for the State turned in a dismal performance during the first quarter of 1985, declining at an annual rate of 5 percent. Total seasonally adjusted employment averaged only 1,607,000 over the quarter, down from 1,627,200 in the fourth quarter of last year. What's worse, it is the first quarterly decline since a drop of 1.2 percent in the third quarter of 1982 when the State was mired in recession.

Hit with numerous high-tech layoffs and the continued weak condition of the energy sector, the first quarter's employment loss left total employment only 8,900 higher than in the same period in 1984, an almost negligible gain of 0.6 percent. The CBC had been pointing towards such sluggishness for more than a year and a half. Its still listless behavior suggests that this same pattern will persist through the second quarter and quite possibly the third.

The State's unemployment rate, which averaged 5.4 percent in the fourth quar-

COLORADO QUARTERLY SUMMARY

Period (Qtr.)	Average Employment	Change -Qtr -	% Growth (Ann. Rate)
1984: 1	1,598,100	+ 8,300	+ 2.1
2	1,606,000	+ 7,900	+ 2.0
3	1,609,500	+ 3,500	+ 0.9
4	1,627,200	+ 17,700	+ 4.4
1985: 1	1,607,000	- 20,200	- 5.0

COLORADO BUSINESS COMPOSITE¹

ANNUAL AVERAGE 1970 = 100

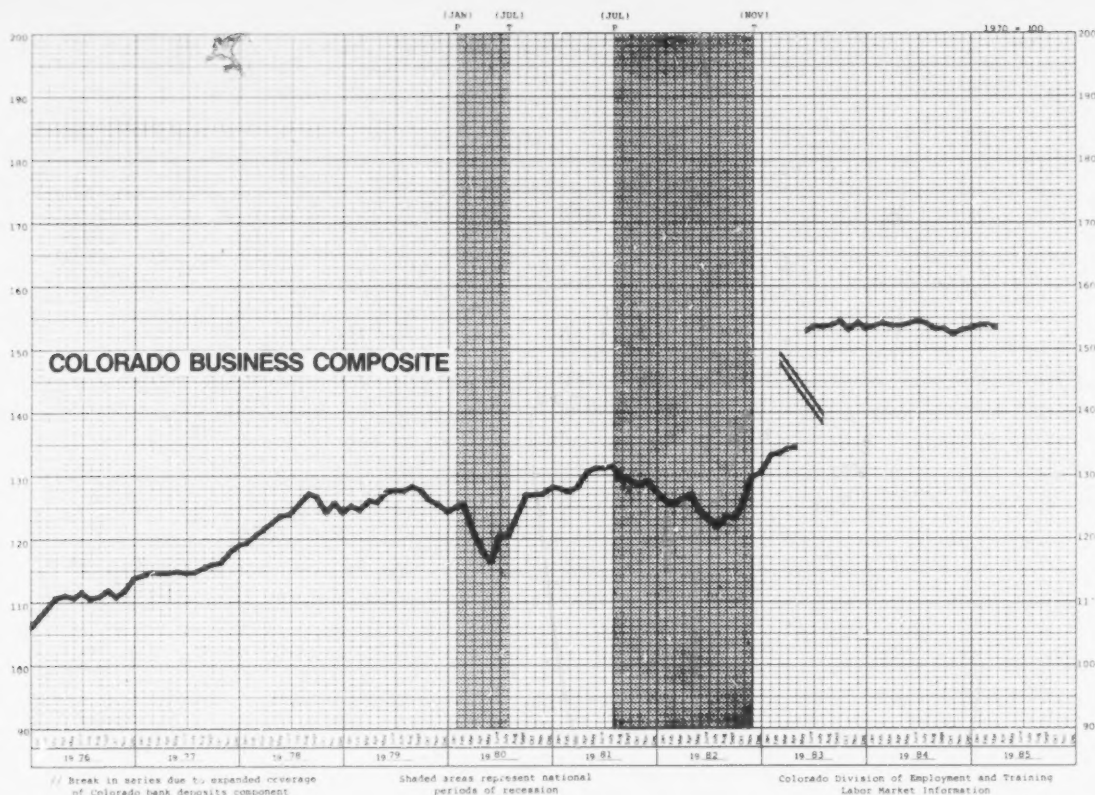
YEAR	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AVERAGE
1976	107.4	109.2	110.9	111.0	110.9	111.6	110.6	110.9	112.0	110.6	111.8	113.8	110.9
1977	114.2	114.6	114.5	114.6	114.8	114.4	114.7	115.2	116.3	116.2	118.1	119.2	115.6
1978	119.4	120.4	121.6	122.9	123.8	123.9	125.6	127.2	126.6	124.0	125.6	124.0	123.8
1979	125.4	124.7	126.1	125.7	127.5	127.9	127.9	128.3	127.5	126.0	125.3	124.3	126.4
1980	125.2	125.6	120.8	117.9	116.4	120.1	120.3	123.9	127.2	127.1	127.2	128.1	123.3
1981	128.0	127.3	128.5	130.7	131.1	131.1	131.3	129.9	129.3	128.8	129.3	127.9	129.4
1982	126.3	125.5	126.7	127.2	124.5	123.3	122.0	123.9	123.4	125.7	129.5	130.8	125.7
1983	133.2	133.5	134.2	134.7	152.9 ²	153.9	153.6	153.8	154.4	152.9	154.4	153.0	147.0
1984	153.7	154.1	153.9	153.9	154.2	154.5	154.0	153.1	153.1	152.5	153.1	153.4	153.6
1985	153.9	154.0	153.3										

Over the Month Percent Change

YEAR	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
1976	1.4	1.7	1.6	0.1	- 0.1	0.6	- 0.9	0.3	1.0	- 1.3	1.1	1.8	7.3
1977	0.4	0.4	- 0.1	0.1	0.2	- 0.3	0.3	0.4	0.8	0.1	1.6	0.9	4.8
1978	0.2	0.8	1.0	1.1	0.7	0.1	1.4	1.3	- 0.5	- 2.1	1.3	- 1.3	4.0
1979	1.1	- 0.6	1.1	- 0.3	1.4	0.3	0.0	0.3	- 0.6	- 1.2	- 0.6	- 0.8	0.1
1980	0.7	0.3	- 3.8	- 2.4	- 1.3	3.2	0.2	3.0	2.7	- 0.1	0.1	0.7	3.3
1981	- 0.1	0.5	0.9	1.7	0.3	0.0	0.2	- 1.1	- 0.5	- 0.4	0.4	- 1.1	0.8
1982	- 1.3	- 0.6	1.0	0.4	- 2.1	- 1.0	- 1.1	1.6	- 0.4	1.9	3.0	1.0	2.4
1983	1.8	0.2	0.5	0.4	1.6	0.7	- 0.2	0.1	0.4	- 1.0	1.0	- 0.9	4.6
1984	0.5	0.3	- 0.1	0.0	0.2	0.2	- 0.3	- 0.6	0.0	- 0.4	0.4	0.2	0.4
1985	0.3	0.1	- 0.5										

1/ For a detailed explanation of the CBC, see the technical report by authors Larson and Wejahn in the July 1983 issue of the *Colorado Labor Force Review*, Vol. XX, No. 7.

2/ Break in series due to expanded coverage of Colorado bank deposits component.

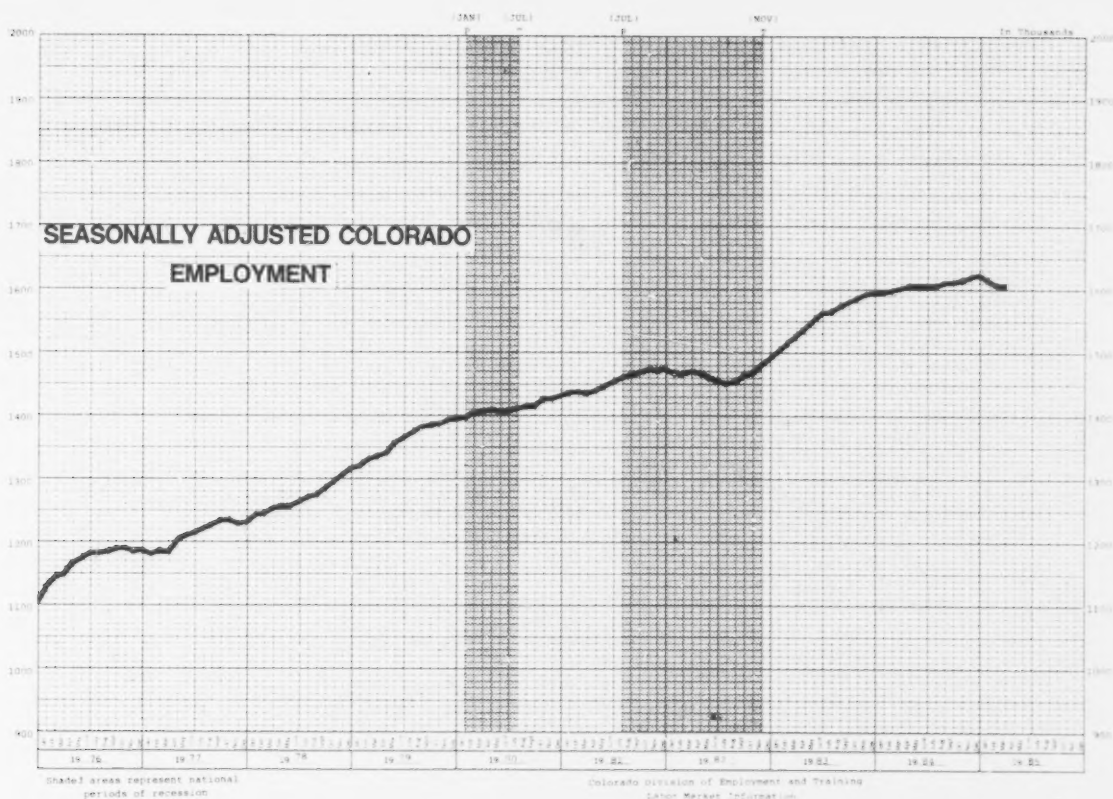


ter of last year, averaged more than a percentage point higher in the present quarter at 6.5 percent.

The report on the nation's health in the first quarter was weaker than was widely expected with real GNP posting anemic growth of 1.3 percent. The economy grew at a 4.3 percent annual rate in the fourth quarter of last year. Growth in the U.S. was battered by a deluge of imports during the quarter. Net exports fell from - \$13.4 billion in the fourth quarter of 1984 to - \$26.1 billion in the first quarter of 1985. Consumer spending may have been held down during the period in part to delays in the Internal Revenue Service's processing of tax refunds. But personal consumption expanded at a healthy 4.6 percent annual rate from \$1,075.4 billion in the fourth quarter to \$1,087.9 billion in the current period suggesting that most of any additional strength in this component would have went to purchase imports anyway. Unless interest rates ease further and counteract the impact the dollar is having on domestic markets, economic growth in the U.S. will continue to sputter.

Of the four CBC indicators which declined over the month, an almost 39 percent drop in statewide private housing permits had the largest impact on the overall index. The number of units for which permits were received fell to 2,486 in March from 4,059 in February. Permit activity has fluctuated wildly over the past year, but with conditions gradually improving for both the buyer and the builder we would expect that new home permits will soon pop above 3,500 units per month and stay there for most of the remainder of 1985.

Three other indicators showed relatively small declines over the month. They were: a 1.4 percent increase in statewide average weekly initial



claims for unemployment insurance (negative development for purposes of the CBC), a 1.1 percent drop in stock prices comprising the Colorado stock market index and a decline in the percent change of sensitive materials prices as measured by the U.S. Producer Price Index to - 0.98 percent in March from - 0.81 percent in February.

Claims rose to 3,894 in March from the 3,842 registered in February. March's level is the highest in over a year. January 1984 claims totaled 4,165.

Stock prices fell back in March after three months of increases. The index settled at 265.65 in March, down from 268.48 in February.

The percent change of sensitive materials prices at the primary level is at its lowest level since the - 1.06 percent change posted in September of last year. A sharp rise in this indicator would indicate an imminent improvement in our economy.

Rising indicators in March included deflated bank deposits in the State and the Colorado net business formation index. Total bank deposits at Colorado financial institutions after adjustment for inflation rose a scant 1/2 percent over the month to \$11.872 billion in March from \$11.812 billion in February. Deposits, which is one of the better leaders at business cycle troughs, has been signaling improvement in business conditions since last October. Between September 1984 and March of this year total deposits have grown at an annualized rate of more than 18 percent. The Colorado net business formation index advanced by slightly more than 1 percent in March to 302.38 from 298.88 in February aided by gains in both of its components. The net business incorporations portion of the index was up by 0.6 percent while the series on net business telephone line connections was ahead by almost 4 percent.

DATA SERIES FOR LEADING INDICATORS COMPRISING THE COLORADO BUSINESS COMPOSITE

1. COLORADO AVERAGE WEEKLY INITIAL CLAIMS

YEAR	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AVERAGE
1976	3,286	2,901	2,912	2,877	2,840	2,940	2,923	2,986	3,218	3,391	3,978	3,058	3,109
1977	3,185	3,416	3,453	3,354	3,131	3,258	3,274	3,240	3,124	2,957	3,022	2,763	3,181
1978	2,849	2,923	2,830	2,626	2,576	2,481	2,382	2,522	2,564	2,590	2,540	3,124	2,667
1979	2,746	2,633	2,618	3,364	2,372	2,433	2,544	2,504	2,468	2,513	2,689	3,333	2,685
1980	2,930	2,825	3,087	3,738	3,800	3,817	3,764	3,572	3,612	3,532	3,580	3,588	3,487
1981	3,308	3,377	3,535	2,889	3,432	3,275	3,185	3,300	3,126	3,225	3,401	3,277	3,278
1982	3,903	3,589	3,600	3,258	3,884	4,500	4,770	4,999	5,701	5,766	5,270	4,446	4,474
1983	4,484	4,628	4,860	4,691	4,303	4,625	3,657	4,064	4,016	4,227	3,665	4,216	4,286
1984	4,165	3,320	3,661	3,022	3,052	2,682	2,657	3,013	3,067	3,413	3,772	3,687	3,293
1985	3,709	3,842	3,894										

2. COLORADO STOCK MARKET INDEX* (30 Regional Firms): 1970 = 100 --Adjusted for stock splits and dividends--

YEAR	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AVERAGE
1976	116.84	120.53	126.49	123.16	120.88	123.16	120.53	119.82	124.04	121.23	123.33	130.70	122.56
1977	128.25	125.44	124.74	127.37	125.96	128.42	128.77	126.32	126.49	120.18	125.09	127.72	126.23
1978	121.05	122.81	128.07	138.42	142.46	141.23	154.39	166.84	162.28	135.26	141.40	144.39	141.55
1979	154.69	146.53	155.73	161.28	157.12	165.80	169.24	178.91	175.22	156.41	172.93	177.86	164.31
1980	189.46	185.59	160.98	166.43	178.91	188.72	204.15	210.45	218.91	224.38	224.78	235.06	200.65
1981	222.13	224.88	247.66	253.47	255.74	253.15	246.04	131.02	215.51	231.18	234.89	222.13	236.48
1982	218.26	207.70	195.44	200.40	196.22	182.11	170.38	190.66	198.41	219.28	245.73	239.76	205.36
1983	244.67	252.05	255.74	267.62	278.69	294.88	285.04	276.02	278.07	266.81	275.53	270.64	270.48
1984	259.36	250.43	241.49	241.70	231.37	238.74	234.53	260.21	251.49	246.17	242.48	246.30	245.44
1985	265.22	268.48	265.65										

3. COLORADO BANK DEPOSITS, 1972 DOLLARS (In Millions)

YEAR	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AVERAGE
1976	4,196	4,177	4,365	4,260	4,266	4,388	4,266	4,333	4,380	4,403	4,448	4,443	4,327
1977	4,468	4,552	4,565	4,556	4,541	4,567	4,578	4,681	4,586	4,589	4,708	4,801	4,599
1978	4,756	4,876	4,840	4,833	5,059	4,937	5,026	5,027	5,070	5,072	5,036	5,008	4,961
1979	5,119	5,022	5,019	5,038	5,069	5,077	5,072	5,043	5,038	5,052	4,908	4,897	5,030
1980	4,898	4,828	4,817	4,783	4,721	4,666	4,698	4,685	4,723	4,780	4,885	4,787	4,773
1981	4,797	4,738	4,711	4,748	4,714	4,723	4,721	4,801	4,739	4,690	4,700	4,756	4,737
1982	4,768	4,806	4,919	4,890	4,917	4,920	4,850	4,887	4,894	4,991	5,133	5,251	4,936
1983	5,395	5,463	5,549	5,473	10,241 ^a	10,487	10,501	10,439	10,341	10,523	10,453	10,468	8,778
1984	10,741	10,898	11,441	10,885	11,129	11,017	11,072	10,952	10,881	11,390	11,427	11,445	11,107
1985	11,715	11,812	11,872										

4. STATEWIDE PRIVATE HOUSING PERMITS (In Units)

YEAR	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
1976	1,549	1,850	1,733	1,884	1,840	2,085	1,897	1,937	2,163	1,823	2,593	2,545	23,898
1977	2,907	2,976	2,642	2,514	3,232	3,046	3,282	2,786	2,972	3,130	3,249	3,445	36,181
1978	3,779	3,438	4,075	3,905	3,184	3,352	3,203	3,751	3,274	3,022	4,217	3,412	42,611
1979	3,070	3,420	3,473	3,305	3,609	3,359	3,208 ^b	3,130	2,821	2,997	2,325	2,483	37,199
1980	2,105	2,451	1,554	1,151	1,016	2,611	1,916	2,654	3,506	2,508	2,399	2,483	26,353
1981	2,638	2,221	2,497	2,586	2,816	2,237	2,331	1,780	2,100	1,743	2,083	1,826	26,856
1982	1,787	1,541	2,238	2,409	1,946	2,407	2,528	2,311	2,377	3,127	4,334	3,407	30,411
1983	4,480	4,157	3,619	3,323	5,059	4,914	3,452	4,833	5,266	3,408	3,782	3,611	49,904
1984	5,106	4,907	4,789	3,277	4,635	4,056	3,421	1,976	2,706	2,211	3,711	4,070	44,865
1985	3,865	4,059	2,486										

5. COLORADO NET BUSINESS FORMATION INDEX 1/ 1970 = 100

YEAR	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AVERAGE
1976	136.24	138.66	139.44	146.48	149.00	145.90	147.64	147.78 ^c	153.18	151.72	156.97	161.48	147.87
1977	162.73	165.75	167.41	165.88	162.28	164.04	167.91	172.75	179.71	183.29	198.90	200.22	174.24
1978	210.82	214.48	219.39	228.25	229.04	235.85	233.29	239.42	239.11	239.29	238.69	237.03	230.39
1979	233.87	232.88	236.61	241.66	242.60	250.62	259.14	259.23	256.40	251.05	250.39	243.43	246.49
1980	245.25	243.94	238.81	237.70	231.88	227.46	220.03	222.65	231.38	240.85	241.30	258.75	236.67
1981	262.03	270.61	273.79	279.32	294.96	304.84	313.53	312.80	311.79	307.75	310.37	295.04	294.74
1982	283.10	271.63	273.09	268.78	252.56	250.61	251.01	263.62	255.94	250.31	251.04	261.08	261.06
1983	276.45	268.51	271.42	283.13	290.69	299.37	297.69	303.40	316.28	309.10	322.36	307.73	295.51
1984	310.60	312.79	309.24	331.40	328.53	333.02	331.64	325.27	319.34	308.39	307.23	303.94	318.45
1985	296.52	298.88	302.38										

6. CHANGE IN SENSITIVE MATERIALS PRICES (U.S. FPI Less Petroleum & Agricultural Products), SMOOTHED DATA 2/ (Percent)

YEAR	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
1976	0.72	1.34	1.66	1.81	1.69	1.35	1.40	1.44	1.12	0.29	-0.18	0.18	12.82
1977	0.49	0.77	1.04	1.11	0.65	-0.45	-1.07	-0.47	0.57	0.98	0.43	0.28	4.33
1978	1.00	1.70	1.57	0.90	0.58	0.89	1.18	1.31	1.30	1.44	1.81	1.59	15.27
1979	1.12	0.97	1.72	2.36	1.91	1.13	0.46	0.19	-0.06	0.14	0.42	0.20	10.53
1980	0.01	0.38	0.78	-0.27	-2.18	-3.06	-1.79	0.57	1.96	1.90	1.30	0.79	0.39
1981	-0.16	-0.80	-1.15	-0.52	0.17	0.23	-0.18	-0.36	-0.61	-1.00	-1.40	-1.50	-6.96
1982	-1.11	-0.71	-0.53	-0.76	-0.89	-0.85	-0.68	-0.61	-0.53	-0.40	-0.48	-0.50	-8.05
1983	-0.16	0.92	1.96	2.03	1.36	0.94	0.93	1.07	0.93	0.69	0.71	0.72	12.10
1984	0.77	0.40	0.34	0.39	0.27	-0.12	-0.64	-1.05	-1.06	-0.81	-0.46	-0.41	-2.38
1985	-0.52	-0.81	-0.98										

NOTE: Data series are seasonally adjusted except for those series that appear to contain no seasonal movement. Unadjusted series are indicated by an *. Data is provided for a ten year period. Prior data to 1970 can be obtained by contacting Area Labor Information, Colorado Division of Employment and Training.

1/ Data on net business incorporations and net business telephones make up the net business formation index. Data is smoothed by a 6-month moving average. Weights were derived to equalize the differences in the average monthly percentage changes among the two series in order to minimize dominance by the more volatile series when combined. 2/ This series is a weighted 4-term moving average (with weights 1, 2, 2, 1) placed on the terminal month of the span. a/ Break in series. Coverage expanded from Federal Reserve member banks to all depository institutions. b/ Additional reporters. c/ Series on net business telephone lines expanded to include data for equipment owned by customers but serviced by US West.

Sources: Unemployment Insurance Section, Colorado Division of Employment & Training; Daily Stock Quotations; Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City; Building Permits Branch, U.S. Bureau of the Census; Office of the Secretary of State; US West; Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce.

COLORADO ANNUAL PLANNING INFORMATION FY 1986

BY KENNETH McNULTY, ECONOMIST
LABOR MARKET INFORMATION SECTION

The Colorado Annual Planning Information Report (API) has been completed for fiscal year 1986. Copies are available on request.

This publication was prepared by the Labor Market Information Section of the Colorado Department of Labor & Employment, Division of Employment and Training; in co-operation with the Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor. It is one of several reports published periodically and provides historical, current, and projected labor market information, including the outlook for the Colorado economy, as well as population and labor force estimates, industry and occupational employment outlook, and an analysis of job openings received and services to registered applicants in Colorado Job Service Centers.

It is hoped that this information will be of value to officials and persons with responsibilities for the development and implementation of employment and job-training programs.

The following analysis, taken from the API, forecasts the economic conditions expected during the current fiscal year and fiscal years 1986 and 1987.

COLORADO MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISION FORECASTS FY 1985-86-87*

	<u>Fiscal 1984^{1/}</u>	<u>Fiscal 1985 Forecast % Change</u>	<u>Fiscal 1986 Forecast % Change</u>	<u>Fiscal 1987 Forecast % Change</u>
Mining	36300	37800 4.1%	38500 1.9%	38900 1.0%
Construction	90900	93100 2.4%	94000 1.0%	96800 3.0%
Manufacturing	185100	189700 2.5%	191600 1.0%	195400 2.0%
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Util.	94800	97400 2.7%	98900 1.5%	101600 2.7%
Trade	337500	347300 2.9%	354600 2.1%	364900 2.9%
Fin., Ins. & Real Estate	90500	93800 3.6%	95800 2.1%	99100 3.4%
Services	404000	420200 4.0%	428600 2.0%	444900 3.8%
Pub. Admin.	<u>84200</u>	<u>85000</u> 1.0%	<u>85900</u> 1.1%	<u>86800</u> 1.0%
TOTAL	1323300	1364300 3.1%	1387900 1.7%	1428400 2.9%

NOTE: Analyses and forecasts based on ES-202 series.

*Fiscal year begins July 1 of preceding calendar year.

^{1/} Preliminary

COLORADO
INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK
(MAJOR DIVISION ANALYSIS)

Fiscal Year 1984 Review

Very expansive fiscal and monetary policies at the national level during the past four years set the stage for strong job growth in the Colorado economy during FY '84. Preliminary figures indicate that employment was expanding at a 3.6 percent rate during the period, adding 46,000 new non-farm wage and salary jobs to our economy. The rate of advancement for the period compares to a 0.7 percent growth rate during the preceding fiscal year and a 1.7 percent rate during fiscal '82. All major industrial divisions with the exception of the Mining sector showed positive growth for the year, with both the Trade and Service sectors generating over 12,000 new jobs each.

Unemployment for the period was estimated to average 5.6 percent of the labor force, substantially below the fiscal year 1983 level of 7.7 percent.

Fiscal Years 1985 Through 1987

The strong job expansion experienced by both the Colorado and national economies during the past fiscal year (and which has continued into the first half of fiscal '85) has its origins in: (1) the significant tax reduction policies initiated at the national level in 1981; (2) the expansive money growth policies put in place by the monetary authorities in '82 and '83; (3) increases in the federal debt since FY '80 totaling more than one-half trillion dollars; and (4) current capital inflows from foreign countries exceeding \$100 billion dollars annually. The assumptions made regarding the performance of these four factors during the next three fiscal years will, for the most part, define the job generating capabilities of both economies.

Although congressional procrastination will be the rule during the first half of calendar 1985, current account deficits exceeding \$100 billion dollars annually and yearly interest payments on the national debt surpassing \$160 billion dollars will force the House and Senate to raise taxes (by whatever name) probably during the first half of fiscal '86 (July through December 1985).

For the most part, the transfer of purchasing power from the public to the private sector or from the private to the public sector is job neutral. Some of the transfers to the private sector since 1981 however, have, because of their influence on certain investment decisions created more new jobs (and investment redundancies, office space for example) in the short run than would have been created had the money been used for public sector purposes. These investment activities were undertaken with assumed rates of return being based on certain current tax advantages (the Accelerated Cost Recovery System, for example). As these advantages are reduced or eliminated, slower job growth can be expected in those industries affected by those changes. Additionally, as these lower rates of return on direct investment work their way through our economy they will tend to reduce the \$100 billion dollar current deficit that is helping fund our present domestic consumption expenditures. This will probably cause additional job losses.

Coupled with the efforts to increase revenue will be renewed efforts to reduce the expenditure side of the national ledger. It is, of course, obvious that with an expected doubling of the national public debt between 1981 and 1986 (funded in part by monetizing a portion of that debt and in part by foreign creditors) a rather large number of the new jobs created during the past year, and currently, are being supported by the deficits being generated at the national level. As efforts to reduce these huge numbers are translated into actual reductions in outlays concomitant job losses will probably occur in both the public and private sectors. Substitute borrowers are not expected to be found to replace the reduced credit demands of the federal government to any large degree. Further, the assumption of a weaker dollar brought about by the deficit reduction efforts will accelerate the exodus of foreign money.

It seems rather improbable that monetary policy will come to the rescue and replace a significant portion of the losses in effective demand that are forecast to take place. Although primary expansion of the money supply may be attempted, the chances of any substantial secondary expansion taking place during the deceleration phase of a business cycle seems somewhat remote. And, given the size of our current deficits, the primary expansion itself would seem to be held back by the perceived threat of soaring inflation. Efforts to monetize portions of the national debt over and above current historical levels as a substitute for responsible fiscal policies would send strong negative signals to the various credit markets whose response would quite likely be very high interest rates.

Given these assumed fiscal and monetary policies at the national level, non-farm wage and salary employment is expected to move up at about a 1.7 percent rate in the fiscal year beginning in July. This is substantially below the 3.1 percent forecast for the current fiscal year. In terms of the actual number of new jobs, growth is expected to drop from 41,000 annually to 23,600.

Over the moderately longer term, deficit reduction efforts have a very positive effect on accelerating the rate of new job formation in an economy. Responsible efforts to bring expenditures more in line with revenues at the national level send an immediate signal to the credit markets that the primary solution to the deficit problem will not involve significant monetization of the debt. It has been this monetizing fear that has kept long-term rates substantially above the inflation rate during the past two years. Reduced rates in the long-term market are of particular benefit to agriculture, housing and consumer durable purchases. Lower interest rates coupled with the lower rate of return expected on direct investment should result in more rational exchange rates. As the dollar declines in value relative to other world currencies some of the two to three million jobs that have been lost due to our expanding trade deficits should be recaptured. Interest payments made by the federal government to foreigners amount to some \$20 billion dollars annually. A stabilization or actual reduction in this income leakage would help to provide more job opportunities for our own citizens. As additional deficit reducing policies are put in place, monetary policy can become a more viable tool for creating new effective demand, with more of the stimulative effects from this source going into new job creation rather than higher prices.

Should these corrections in fact take place, new job opportunities during fiscal year 1987 should surpass FY '86 levels by a substantial margin. Employment growth rates should approach fiscal '85 levels with the Colorado

economy providing over 40,000 new nonfarm wage and salary employment opportunities.

The fiscal years 1986 and 1987 growth rate forecasts are predicated on timely congressional action being taken to at least partially resolve the federal deficit and current account deficit problem. If substantive corrective measures are not in place by the first quarter of fiscal year 1986, estimated growth rates for that fiscal year will be significantly higher than the 1.7 percent forecast. On the other hand, the interest rate and inflation repercussions resulting from such inaction would probably force both the national and Colorado economies into negative growth rate patterns during fiscal 1987 (July 1986 through June 1987).

(Major Division Industry Outlook)

The Mining Industry

Moderate rehiring in the metals sector of this major industry division should move current fiscal year mining employment above the levels experienced during FY '84. Looking ahead, implementation of the Comprehensive Fair Trade Program at the national level will limit annual steel imports to about 20 percent of the U.S. market. This should help stabilize or slightly increase metal mining employment numbers in fiscal '86 and '87.

A review of the oil and gas extraction sector indicates that world oil prices will probably continue to drop during the foreseeable future. However, as part of the deficit reduction program nationally a surcharge is expected to be placed on certain energy imports. Should such a policy be forthcoming it would tend to shield domestic production from international price levels that would be unprofitable in our local economies and lead to reduced activity in the short term. Additionally, drilling costs remain well below the levels of just a few years ago providing a further incentive to moderately increase the extractive activity of this sector. Given these two factors and the major employment adjustments that have taken place in oil and gas extraction during the past 18 months, the stage would seem to be set for a modest turnaround in employment levels during the fiscal year that begins July 1.

Primarily because of high transportation costs and surplus electrical generating capacity nationally, employment in Colorado's bituminous coal sector will probably remain unchanged at about 4000 employees during the next two fiscal years.

Given these industry specific assumptions and the overall economic framework previously defined, mining employment is forecast to grow at a very modest 1.5 percent annual rate during the period under study.

The Construction Industry

This industry contributed over 4000 new jobs to the Colorado economy during the fiscal year ending last June 30. Job growth during the current and ensuing two fiscal years is estimated to average less than half that figure. There are a number of reasons for the reduced forecast.

Although long-term rates in general have dropped about two points during the past six months, most mortgage rates have not experienced a comparable downturn. Currently, the effective rate on 30 year conventional fixed rate

mortgages approximates 14 percent, basically the same rate that was in effect a year ago. This "stickyness" in the residential mortgage sector would seem to be the result of a combination of factors: excessive deficit financing, tight money policies and Euromarket borrowing. Deficits around the \$200 billion dollar mark drain a significant portion of the economy's savings away from other potential customers one of which, of course, is the housing market. Tight money policies, by attempting to reduce the supply of credit in our economy, move interest rates up if the demand for credit remains unchanged. Euromarket borrowings as a surrogate for domestic lenders force more stringent domestic monetary controls to be implemented than would otherwise be the case in order to offset the inflow of this new effective demand. These more stringent policies fall more heavily on mortgage rates than long term corporate borrowing rates, since the latter can tap the Euromarket thereby effectively increasing the supply of credit available to it.

Figures in the local news media regarding the time needed to work off the office inventory surplus in the Denver metro area vary from approximately one to three years. Couple this excess inventory with an expected drop in the level of tax credits currently being made available to this type of capital investment, and the stage would seem to be set for reduced growth rates in the nonresidential portion of construction activity.

Deficit reduction efforts at the national level are expected to freeze or reduce highway funding, revenue sharing and urban development grants, all of which would impact the ability of this industry to maintain current employment growth rates.

The Manufacturing Industry

Notwithstanding the estimated 7000 new jobs provided by manufacturing firms during fiscal year 1984, employment at the beginning of the current fiscal year was still below pre-recession levels. No net new growth has been experienced. Rather, the recovery that began during the third quarter of calendar '83 has been strong enough to only recapture the number of jobs that were lost during the '82-'83 recession.

New employment opportunities in this industry during the next three fiscal years will probably average about 3400 annually, substantially below the 7000 figure experienced during the past fiscal year. Part of the anticipated reduction in job growth will be due to an estimated international manufacturing trade deficit averaging over \$100 billion dollars during the next two years. Part will be due to transferring more of the labor intensive portions of our expansion to foreign countries. Escalating competition from U.S. firms residing outside our state and who provide competing product lines in our national markets will be a third factor influencing the level of new manufacturing job opportunities generated by our local economy. And finally, the degree defense expenditures are made a part of any deficit reduction efforts at the national level will have obvious effects on our local manufacturing employment levels.

The Transportation, Communications and Public Utilities Industry

Although some further moderate adjustments may be forthcoming, most of the discontinuities brought on by the deregulation of major portions of the

communications sector of the industry have been completed. The same cannot be said for the air transportation component, however.

As we reach the midpoint of FY 1985, the pricing structure of much of the commercial airline industry is even more chaotic than in the spring of 1982. Price cutting and overcapacity, competitive responses to past deregulation efforts, portend additional employment adjustments in the sector. During the period under study no net growth is anticipated.

For the industry as a whole, employment growth should average about two percent during the next two years or about 2000 net new hires annually.

The Trade Industry

The wholesale and retail trade sectors added 12,500 new job opportunities to the Colorado economy during the past fiscal year. Given the estimated population growth during the same period of 2.6 percent (and an average annual rate of 2.3 percent since 1980), the job growth experienced in the industry during FY '84 was excessive. The over-expansion in the retail trade sector became apparent during the most recent holiday shopping season when early price reductions caused the season to be one long promotion. Future job expansion in the industry will be held back somewhat until these redundancies are eliminated either through employment reduction, faster population growth, or some combination of the two.

During the 36 month period which started last July, yearly net new hires in the industry are expected to average 9,100. Most of the job gains should center in eating and drinking places, miscellaneous retail establishments, and the durable goods sector of wholesale trade.

The Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (FIRE) Industries

Past statutory actions and, more recently, very basic structural changes taking place in our economy portend slower growth in this industry in the near term.

The deregulation of some sectors of FIRE that began in 1980 has, through expanding diversification and its accompanying crossover of services, produced significant amounts of redundant employment in this industry. As accelerating competition forces out some of this redundancy, growth rates can be expected to decline.

One of the primary constraints that has and will continue to slow growth in the Colorado economy, and particularly this industry, is the move from an inflationary economy to one of disinflation or actual deflation. An economy whose past growth was, to a large extent, controlled by energy, agriculture, metals and real estate will not fare very well in a disinflationary environment. Personal income and employment growth rates that were double the national average in the past will be hard pressed to equal that national average in the near turn. Loans that were made to the above-mentioned sectors presumed future high inflation rates that would continually increase the value of land, oil, silver and office complexes. As disinflation has become a major factor in our economy, interest has turned from making new loans, to collecting the old ones.

Growth rates in this industry that were almost six percent in FY '84 are expected to average half that rate during the next three fiscal years.

The Service Industry

Of the eight sectors of the Colorado economy under study this major division can be expected to provide the largest number of new job opportunities annually. It is a diverse area of economic activity comprising some 15 major service related groups. During a normal year, two of these major sectors will provide over half of the net new openings generated by the entire industry: business services and health services.

Contrary to popular opinion (and as was shown during our last recession) the industry as a whole is significantly affected by changes in the business cycle. For example, during the first quarter of calendar 1983 (the trough of our last recession) the hotel/motel sector was losing some 1100 jobs annually, while the business services sector was growing at a muted 600 jobs yearly. Twelve months later, when the local economy was well into the recovery phase of its business cycle, lodging places were experiencing new job growth of some 3000, while business services were expanding at a 9000 net new hiring level.

During each of the next two years the industry should provide some 12,300 new job opportunities. As previously indicated, over 6000 of these new opportunities will involve business and health services. Within business services a significant portion of the new hire increase will center in the temporary help portion of Personnel Supply Services. The additional hiring of contracted temporary help is a response by the business community to the structural changes of radically increasing competition and disinflation that are taking place in our economy.

The Public Administration Industry

The anticipated freezing or the actual reduction of federal funds supporting certain public administration functions in the Colorado economy will have obvious negative employment effects on this industry. On the other hand, the moderate downturn being forecast for fiscal year 1986 with the accompanying increase in unemployment will require additional public sector effort if a "safety net", as promised by Congress, is to be maintained. Taken together, the net effect should be a very modest 900 annual job increase during the next two years.

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED LABOR FORCE DATA^{1/}

COLORADO					CHANGE FROM:			
	MAR 1985	FEB 1985	DEC 1984	MAR 1984	MONTH AGO	1 QTR. AGO	4 QTRS. AGO	
RESIDENT CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE (In Thousands).....	1,712.7	1,717.2	1,724.9	1,703.8	- 4.5	- 12.2	8.9	
Unemployment.....	110.1	113.5	91.6	102.7	- 3.4	18.5	7.4	
Unemployment (%).....	6.4	6.6	5.3	6.0	---	---	---	
Employment.....	1,602.6	1,603.7	1,633.3	1,601.1	- 1.1	- 20.7	1.5	
NONAG. WAGE & SALARY JOBS ^{2/}	1,411.3	1,406.8	1,403.8	1,378.9	4.5	7.5	32.4	
Mining.....	35.8	35.8	36.0	36.1	0.0	- 0.2	- 0.3	
Contract Construction.....	91.1	90.8	88.6	89.1	0.3	2.3	2.0	
Manufacturing.....	192.6	192.2	194.0	190.5	0.4	- 1.4	2.1	
Durable Goods.....	123.2	123.5	124.5	123.8	- 0.3	- 1.3	0.6	
Nondurable Goods.....	69.4	68.7	69.5	66.7	0.7	- 0.1	2.7	
Transportation & Public Utilities.....	86.5	86.2	86.5	86.1	0.3	0.0	0.4	
Trade.....	346.9	346.3	344.1	338.9	0.6	2.8	8.0	
Wholesale.....	79.5	79.4	78.9	79.4	0.1	0.6	0.1	
Retail.....	267.4	266.9	265.2	259.5	0.5	2.2	7.9	
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate.....	95.5	94.8	94.4	92.9	0.7	1.1	2.6	
Services.....	311.5	310.4	311.0	304.2	1.1	0.5	7.3	
Government.....	251.4	250.3	249.2	241.1	1.1	2.2	10.3	
Federal.....	52.1	52.4	52.1	51.8	- 0.3	0.0	0.3	
State.....	57.8	57.0	58.5	56.8	0.8	- 0.7	1.0	
Local.....	141.5	140.9	138.6	132.5	0.6	2.9	9.0	

DENVER-BOULDER LMA					CHANGE FROM:			
	MAR 1985	FEB 1985	DEC 1984	MAR 1984	MONTH AGO	1 QTR. AGO	4 QTRS. AGO	
RESIDENT CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE (In Thousands).....	1,027.3	1,029.7	1,037.0	1,022.6	- 2.4	- 9.7	4.7	
Unemployment.....	56.0	58.9	48.2	52.1	- 2.9	7.8	3.9	
Unemployment (%).....	5.5	5.7	4.6	5.1	---	---	---	
Employment.....	971.3	970.8	988.8	970.5	0.5	- 17.5	0.8	
NONAG. WAGE & SALARY JOBS ^{2/}	915.6	910.8	909.1	895.0	4.8	6.5	20.6	
Mining.....	23.9	23.8	24.0	25.0	0.1	- 0.1	- 1.1	
Contract Construction.....	57.0	56.5	54.7	55.0	0.5	2.3	2.0	
Manufacturing.....	131.4	131.0	133.5	130.9	0.4	- 2.1	0.5	
Durable Goods.....	80.2	80.1	81.3	80.7	0.1	- 1.1	- 0.5	
Nondurable Goods.....	51.2	50.9	52.2	50.2	0.3	- 1.0	1.0	
Transportation & Public Utilities.....	64.3	63.8	63.9	63.5	0.5	0.4	0.8	
Trade.....	224.2	223.5	220.8	218.2	0.7	3.4	6.0	
Wholesale.....	61.6	61.4	61.3	61.2	0.2	0.3	0.4	
Retail.....	162.6	162.1	159.5	157.0	0.5	1.1	5.6	
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate.....	67.3	66.9	67.0	66.7	0.4	0.3	0.6	
Services.....	207.9	206.4	205.7	201.0	1.5	2.2	6.9	
Government.....	139.6	138.9	139.5	134.7	0.7	0.1	4.9	
Federal.....	32.9	32.8	32.9	33.0	0.1	0.0	- 0.1	
State.....	33.0	32.6	32.8	32.2	0.4	0.2	0.8	
Local.....	73.7	73.5	73.8	69.5	0.2	- 0.1	4.2	

^{1/} Recurrent yearly movements in Colorado labor force data associated with the Current Population Survey have been isolated and removed by the X-11 Variant of the Census Method II Seasonal Adjustment Program. ^{2/} Detail may not add to totals because industry data series have been independently adjusted. Effects of irregularities such as unseasonable weather, strikes, etc. on the trend-cycle component of individual series have been reduced by graduated treatment of extremes.

DENVER AREA CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI-U) BY COMPONENT*

INDEX COMPONENTS	MAR 1985	% CHL 2 MONTHS AGO	% CHL 1 YEAR AGO
ALL ITEMS (1967=100).....	355.1	1.3	2.9
FOOD AND BEVERAGES.....	289.9	2.4	3.0
Food.....	297.4	2.5	3.3
Food at Home.....	294.9	3.6	3.9
Cereals and Bakery Products.....	305.5	2.9	3.6
Meats, Poultry, Fish, and Eggs.....	261.6	4.4	2.8
Dairy Products.....	274.5	0.8	4.2
Fruits and Vegetables.....	317.0	6.4	4.1
Other Foods at Home.....	356.7	2.9	4.9
Food Away From Home.....	308.7	0.2	1.9
Alcoholic Beverages.....	241.4	1.1	- 0.8
HOUSING.....	433.0	0.2	3.3
Shelter.....	520.5	0.8	3.8
****Renters' Costs.....	111.3	0.9	3.8
Rent, Residential.....	261.7	0.9	3.8
Other Renters' Costs.....	405.5	0.1	4.4
****Homeowners' Costs.....	109.3	0.7	3.7
Fuel and Other Utilities.....	353.8	- 1.7	2.6
Fuel.....	507.2	- 3.2	2.0
***Fuel Oil, Coal, and Bottled Gas.....	148.3	- 2.5	- 5.8
Gas (piped) and Electricity.....	514.1	- 3.3	2.2
Household Furnishings and Operation.....	255.1	- 0.3	2.5
APPAREL AND UPKEEP.....	193.7	4.8	3.5
Men's & Boys' Apparel.....	222.4	5.1	4.1
Women's & Girls' Apparel.....	146.8	9.7	2.1
Footwear.....	178.6	- 2.7	- 1.6
TRANSPORTATION.....	314.3	1.8	1.7
Private Transportation.....	310.6	2.1	1.9
Public Transportation.....	379.3	- 1.3	- 1.0
MEDICAL CARE.....	379.5	1.6	5.0
Medical Care Services.....	410.5	1.3	4.2
ENTERTAINMENT.....	282.9	1.3	- 1.7
OTHER GOODS AND SERVICES.....	341.0	0.7	5.6

* Produced by Bureau of Labor Statistics, Mountain-Plains Regions VII & VIII, Kansas City, Missouri. **November 1982=100. ***June 1978=100.

STATE OF COLORADO

DENVER-BOULDER LMA 1/

CHANGE FROM: MONTH YEAR AGO AGO		(thousands) MAR 2/ 1985 FEB 3/ 1985 MAR 1984			(thousands) MAR 2/ 1985 FEB 3/ 1985 MAR 1984			CHANGE FROM: MONTH YEAR AGO AGO	
7,400	9,100	1,695.4	1,688.0	1,686.3	..TOTAL CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ..	1,019.3	1,016.1	1,014.6	3,200 4,700
- 7,000	7,600	112.7	119.7	105.1	(by place of residence)				
---	---	6.6	7.1	6.2	UNEMPLOYMENT 4/.....	55.9	60.6	52.0	- 4,700 3,900
14,400	1,500	1,582.7	1,568.3	1,581.2	Unemployment Rate.....	5.4	6.0	5.1	---
11,100	1,800	1,557.3	1,546.2	1,555.5	EMPLOYMENT.....	963.4	955.5	962.6	7,900 800
3,300	- 300	25.4	22.1	25.7	Nonagricultural 5/.....	958.9	951.6	956.1	7,300 800
					Agricultural.....	4.5	3.9	4.5	600 0
14,000	32,100	1,404.0	1,390.0	1,371.9	WAGE & SALARY 6/.....	908.5	899.1	888.5	9,400 20,000
- 100	- 300	35.2	35.3	35.5	(by place of work)				
0	100	5.6	5.6	5.5	MINING.....	23.6	23.6	24.7	0 - 1,100
200	300	4.8	5.0	4.5	Metallic Minerals.....	3.0	3.0	3.2	0 - 200
100	- 800	24.8	24.7	25.6	Bituminous Coal, Lignite & Nonmetallic.....	0.7	0.7	0.8	0 - 100
2,500	1,900	84.7	82.2	82.8	Oil & Gas Extraction.....	20.0	20.0	20.7	0 - 700
- 100	- 1,700	22.3	22.4	24.0	CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION.....	53.7	52.1	51.9	1,600 1,800
1,200	- 2,300	8.5	7.3	10.8	General Building Contractors.....	13.1	13.2	14.6	- 100 - 1,500
1,400	5,800	53.9	52.5	48.1	Heavy Construction Contractors.....	5.2	4.4	6.0	800 - 800
700	1,900	190.8	190.1	188.9	Special Trade Contractors.....	35.4	34.5	31.3	900 4,100
- 100	- 600	122.5	122.6	123.1	MANUFACTURING.....	130.5	129.6	130.1	900 400
100	- 700	6.7	6.6	7.4	DURABLE.....	79.8	79.5	80.3	300 - 500
200	300	9.8	9.6	9.5	Lumber, Wood Products & Furniture.....	4.1	4.0	4.4	100 - 300
- 400	- 200	14.1	14.5	14.3	Stone, Clay, Glass & Concrete Products.....	7.5	7.4	7.1	100 400
- 100	- 3,800	25.3	25.4	29.1	Primary & Fabricated Metals.....	8.6	8.6	8.4	0 200
100	1,200	22.4	22.3	21.2	Machinery, except Electrical.....	15.4	15.7	19.1	- 300 - 3,900
0	2,400	16.4	16.4	14.0	Electric & Electronic Equipment.....	11.5	11.2	10.9	300 600
100	200	27.8	27.7	27.6	Transportation Equipment.....	14.9	14.9	12.8	0 2,100
600	2,400	68.2	67.6	65.8	Other Durable Goods.....	17.8	17.7	17.6	100 200
500	900	24.6	24.1	23.7	NONDURABLE GOODS.....	50.7	50.1	49.7	600 1,000
600	- 100	6.6	6.0	5.7	Food & Kindred Products.....	16.0	15.4	15.5	600 500
0	- 100	1.9	1.9	2.0	Meat Products.....	3.0	2.4	2.8	600 200
0	1,100	16.1	16.1	15.0	Dairy Products.....	1.5	1.4	1.5	100 0
0	300	3.2	3.2	2.9	Other Food and Kindred Products.....	11.6	11.6	11.3	0 300
0	0	2.2	2.2	2.2	Textiles & Apparel.....	2.6	2.6	2.3	0 300
100	500	21.0	20.9	20.5	Paper & Allied Products.....	2.1	2.1	2.1	0 0
100	500	8.6	8.5	8.1	Printing & Publishing.....	13.8	13.7	14.2	100 - 400
0	200	8.6	8.6	8.4	Chemical & Allied Products.....	8.3	8.3	7.9	0 400
500	400	86.1	85.6	85.7	Other Nondurable Goods.....	7.5	7.9	7.7	0 200
100	- 300	5.6	5.5	5.9	TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES.....	63.9	63.4	63.1	500 800
100	1,300	18.6	18.5	17.3	Railroad Transportation.....	2.8	2.8	3.0	0 - 200
200	600	15.1	14.9	14.5	Trucking & Warehousing.....	14.0	13.9	12.5	100 1,500
100	100	7.2	7.1	7.1	Air Transportation.....	14.4	14.2	13.8	200 600
100	- 1,200	39.7	39.6	40.9	Other Transportation.....	5.1	5.1	5.1	0 0
2,900	7,800	341.8	338.9	334.0	Communication, Elec., Gas, Sanit. Sves.....	27.5	27.4	28.7	100 - 1,200
300	100	78.8	78.5	78.7	WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE.....	220.3	218.6	214.3	1,700 6,000
2,700	7,700	263.0	260.3	255.3	WHOLESALE TRADE.....	61.2	61.1	60.8	100 400
400	900	26.6	27.0	25.7	RETAIL TRADE.....	159.1	157.6	153.6	1,500 5,500
200	1,400	37.9	37.7	36.5	General Merchandise Stores.....	17.6	17.9	17.1	- 300 500
300	400	29.1	28.8	28.7	Food Stores.....	22.9	22.8	22.2	100 700
- 100	200	13.0	13.1	12.8	Automotive Dealers & Gasoline Svc.Sta.....	17.4	17.2	16.9	200 500
2,200	3,100	102.4	100.2	99.3	Apparel & Accessory Stores.....	8.2	8.3	8.1	- 100 100
500	1,800	54.0	53.5	52.2	Eating & Drinking Places.....	60.7	59.5	58.2	1,200 2,500
1,000	2,600	95.5	94.5	92.9	Other Retail Trade.....	32.2	31.9	31.0	300 1,200
0	0	22.2	22.2	22.2	FINANCE, INSURANCE & REAL ESTATE.....	67.0	66.4	66.4	600 600
200	600	16.4	16.2	15.8	Banking.....	14.4	14.4	14.5	0 - 100
100	700	22.3	22.2	21.6	Credit Agencies Other than Banks.....	12.9	12.8	12.5	100 400
500	1,500	26.1	25.6	24.6	Insurance Carriers, Agents & Brokers.....	16.9	16.7	16.5	200 400
200	- 300	8.5	8.3	8.8	Real Estate & Combination Offices.....	15.4	15.3	15.0	100 400
3,900	7,400	312.7	308.8	305.3	Other Finance, Insurance & Real Estate.....	7.3	7.2	7.8	100 - 500
300	800	28.2	27.9	27.4	SERVICES.....	206.9	204.0	200.4	2,900 6,500
300	700	27.6	27.3	26.9	Lodging & Comb. Lodging & Eating Places.....	12.4	12.1	11.9	300 500
200	700	17.3	17.1	16.6	Hotels, Tourist Courts & Motels.....	12.2	12.0	11.8	200 400
1,500	2,000	65.3	63.8	63.3	Personal Services.....	11.6	11.5	11.0	100 600
200	600	15.2	15.0	14.6	Business Services.....	51.3	49.8	49.8	1,500 1,500
300	1,400	21.2	20.9	19.8	Auto & Misc. Repair Services.....	10.6	10.5	10.1	100 500
400	- 1,700	73.6	73.2	75.3	Amusements & Recreation.....	8.0	8.1	8.1	- 100 - 100
- 100	200	11.1	11.2	10.9	Health Services.....	48.4	48.1	47.2	300 1,200
100	0	21.1	21.0	21.1	Educational Services.....	9.0	9.0	8.5	0 500
1,000	3,400	59.7	58.7	56.3	Membership Organizations.....	13.6	13.5	13.3	100 300
2,600	10,500	257.2	254.6	246.7	Other Services.....	42.1	41.4	40.5	700 1,600
0	300	51.4	51.4	51.1	GOVERNMENT.....	142.7	141.4	137.6	1,300 5,100
1,500	1,000	61.1	59.6	60.1	FEDERAL.....	32.7	32.6	32.8	100 - 100
1,600	600	42.1	40.5	41.5	STATE.....	34.6	33.7	33.7	900 900
1,100	9,200	144.7	143.6	135.5	Education.....	22.5	21.6	22.5	900 0
800	4,800	80.4	79.6	75.6	LOCAL.....	75.4	75.0	71.1	400 4,300
					Education.....	44.2	43.8	40.4	400 3,800
0	- 1,000	0.0	0.0	1.0	LABOR DISPUTANTS.....	0.0	0.0	1.0	0 - 1,000

Estimates made in cooperation with the U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Labor Force adjusted to Current Population Survey data.

Estimates not seasonally adjusted.

1/ Labor Market Area includes Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Clear Creek, Denver, Douglas, Gilpin, and Jefferson Counties. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Revised.
4/ Residents unemployed during the week including the 12th of the month. 5/ Includes residence adjusted nonag. wage & salary workers, self-employed, unpaid family, domestic workers, and labor disputants. 6/ Estimates of all full and part-time employees who worked during, or received pay for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. Excluded are self-employed, unpaid family, domestic workers and members of the Armed Forces. Industry employment coded under the 1972 Standard Industrial Classification System. Due to rounding sum of individual items may not equal totals.

COLORADO LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES

COLORADO AREA	MARCH 1985 PRELIM				FEBRUARY 1995 REVISED			
	TOTAL LABOR FORCE	TOTAL EMPLOY	TOTAL UN-EMP	% UN-EMP	TOTAL LABOR FORCE	TOTAL EMPLOY	TOTAL UN-EMP	% UN-EMP
ALAMOSA	6034	5467	567	9.4	5940	5391	549	9.2
ARCHULETA	1694	1366	328	19.4	1660	1345	315	19.0
BACA	2211	2095	115	5.2	2140	2030	110	5.1
BENT	2300	2154	146	6.3	2254	2111	143	6.3
CHAFFEE	6065	5379	686	11.3	6139	5329	810	13.2
CHEYENNE	984	954	30	3.0	954	920	34	3.6
CO.SPGS.SMSA	169651	158282	11369	6.7	168895	157140	11755	7.0
-EL PASO	165007	154073	10934	6.6	164232	152961	11271	6.9
-TELLER	4644	4209	435	9.4	4663	4179	484	10.4
CONEJOS	2731	2214	517	18.9	2745	2162	583	21.2
COSTILLA	1016	808	208	20.5	1015	790	225	22.2
CROWLEY	1049	980	69	6.6	1037	951	86	8.3
CUSTER	1210	1112	98	8.1	1190	1089	101	8.5
DELTA	8591	7497	1094	12.7	8960	7759	1101	12.4
DEN-BLDR LMA	1019296	963360	55936	5.5	1016119	955509	60610	6.0
-ADAMS	156878	145667	11211	7.1	156993	144480	12513	8.0
-ARAPAHOE	192425	184634	7791	4.0	191414	183130	8284	4.3
-BOULDER	119637	111465	8172	6.8	119645	110556	9089	7.6
-CLEAR CREEK	4319	4074	245	5.7	4299	4041	258	6.0
-DENVER	298288	281448	16840	5.6	297104	279154	17950	6.0
-DOUGLAS	16587	16010	577	3.5	16494	15879	615	3.7
-GILPIN	1599	1469	130	8.1	1565	1457	108	6.9
-JEFFERSON	229563	218593	10970	4.8	228605	216812	11793	5.2
DOLORES	791	726	65	8.2	786	715	71	9.0
EAGLE	12595	11883	712	5.7	12489	11766	723	5.8
ELBERT	2612	2273	339	13.0	2566	2207	359	14.0
FT CO-LVD MSA	86975	81787	5188	6.0	86356	80512	5844	6.8
FREMONT	12479	11067	1412	11.3	12489	11025	1464	11.7
GARFIELD	14879	13335	1544	10.4	14891	13185	1706	11.5
GRAND	7926	7696	230	2.9	7976	7622	354	4.4
GREELEY MSA	66464	61496	4968	7.5	66022	60569	5453	8.3
GUNNISON	5839	5539	300	5.1	5723	5436	287	5.0
HINSDALE	206	199	7	3.4	198	194	4	2.0
HUERFANO	2472	2200	272	11.0	2457	2170	287	11.7
JACKSON	749	692	57	7.6	731	681	50	6.8
KIOWA	739	695	44	6.0	692	666	26	3.8
KIT CARSON	3578	3461	117	3.3	3494	3356	138	3.9
LAKE	3165	2874	291	9.2	3183	2853	330	10.4
LA PLATA	17244	15763	1481	8.6	17129	15598	1531	8.9
LAS ANIMAS	5436	4682	754	13.9	5411	4616	795	14.7
LINCOLN	2411	2303	108	4.5	2362	2256	106	4.5
LOGAN	9876	9340	536	5.4	9810	9192	618	6.3
MESA	43924	38139	5785	13.2	43733	37684	6049	13.8
MINERAL	647	497	150	23.2	565	494	71	12.6
MOFFAT	6667	5681	986	14.8	6570	5611	959	14.6
MONTENZUMA	8686	7344	1342	15.5	8568	7244	1324	15.5
MONTROSE	11459	9411	2048	17.9	11388	9490	1898	16.7
MORGAN	12317	10892	1425	11.6	12205	10676	1529	12.5
OTERO	9134	8454	680	7.4	9115	8255	860	9.4
OURAY	621	406	215	34.6	611	393	218	35.7
PARK	2008	1813	195	9.7	1987	1788	199	10.0
PHILLIPS	1885	1798	87	4.6	1828	1746	82	4.5
PITKIN	8542	8305	237	2.8	8502	8225	277	3.3
PROWERS	7474	7024	450	6.0	7387	6901	486	6.6
PUEBLO MSA	47017	40868	6149	13.1	46679	40805	5874	12.6
RIO BLANCO	3211	2968	243	7.6	3145	2918	227	7.2
RIO GRANDE	5253	4712	541	10.3	5159	4628	531	10.3
ROUTT	13679	12865	814	6.0	13548	12745	803	5.9
SAGUACHE	1939	1715	224	11.6	1918	1665	253	13.2
SAN JUAN	652	443	209	32.1	666	441	225	33.8
SAN MIGUEL	1963	1761	202	10.3	1917	1746	171	8.9
SEDGWICK	1385	1190	195	14.1	1264	1150	114	9.0
SUMMIT	21220	20610	610	2.9	21299	20645	654	3.1
WASHINGTON	2241	2069	172	7.7	2140	1985	155	7.2
YUMA	4197	4043	154	3.7	4089	3918	171	4.2
STATE TOTAL	1695389	1582698	112701	6.6	1697996	1568298	119698	7.1

Estimates made in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics and adjusted to Current Population Survey Data. Estimates not seasonally adjusted.

HOURS AND EARNINGS FOR SELECTED INDUSTRIES^{1/}

COLORADO									
	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	MAR ^{2/}	FEB ^{3/}	MAR	MAR ^{2/}	FEB ^{3/}	MAR	MAR ^{2/}	FEB ^{3/}	MAR
	1985	1985	1984	1985	1985	1984	1985	1985	1984
CONSTRUCTION	\$516.89	\$521.39	\$506.07	40.1	40.2	39.2	\$12.89	\$12.97	\$12.91
MANUFACTURING	\$389.16	\$389.68	\$370.27	41.4	41.5	40.6	\$ 9.40	\$ 9.39	\$ 9.12
Durable Goods	\$395.78	\$398.11	\$378.53	41.4	41.6	41.1	\$ 9.56	\$ 9.57	\$ 9.21
Nondurable Goods	\$377.98	\$377.15	\$356.61	41.4	41.4	39.8	\$ 9.13	\$ 9.11	\$ 8.96

DENVER-BOULDER LMA ^{4/}									
	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	MAR ^{2/}	FEB ^{3/}	MAR	MAR ^{2/}	FEB ^{3/}	MAR	MAR ^{2/}	FEB ^{3/}	MAR
	1985	1985	1984	1985	1985	1984	1985	1985	1984
CONSTRUCTION	\$541.09	\$543.35	\$524.77	40.2	40.1	38.7	\$13.46	\$13.55	\$13.56
MANUFACTURING	\$408.24	\$408.66	\$389.09	41.7	41.7	40.7	\$ 9.79	\$ 9.80	\$ 9.56
Durable Goods	\$411.04	\$411.46	\$388.01	41.9	41.9	40.8	\$ 9.81	\$ 9.82	\$ 9.51
Nondurable Goods	\$404.06	\$403.91	\$390.57	41.4	41.3	40.6	\$ 9.76	\$ 9.78	\$ 9.62

^{1/} Averages, prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, based upon data for full and part-time production, working supervisory, and related employees who worked during the pay period including the 12th of the month. Average earnings are computed on a "gross" basis and may reflect change in basic hourly and incentive wage rates. Average hourly earnings are not wage rates but averages of gross earnings of all employees below administrative level.

^{2/} Preliminary.

^{3/} Revised.

^{4/} Includes Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Denver, Douglas, Clear Creek, Gilpin, and Jefferson counties.

SELECTED MONTHLY ACTIVITIES—DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT

	COLORADO ^{1/}			DENVER AREA		
	MAR 1985	FFB 1985	MAR 1984	MAR 1985	FEB 1985	MAR 1984
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE						
Initial Claims	14,581	16,043	14,588	6,899	8,084	7,452
Continued Claims	162,594	165,267	154,957	76,719 ^{2/}	71,961 ^{2/}	67,639 ^{2/}
Number of Benefit Payments	122,109	124,908	120,688	52,844	56,527	50,182
Amount of Benefits Paid	\$17,276,992	\$17,748,841	\$17,049,137	\$8,105,756	\$8,538,282	\$7,337,937
Benefit Funds Available	(\$4,363,547) ^{3/}	(\$4,896,460)	(\$4,011,547)	---	---	---
EMPLOYMENT SERVICE						
New Applications for Work	12,233	10,967	10,439	6,468	5,946	5,259
Nonagricultural Placements	4,444	3,625	5,972	1,848	1,388	2,425
Agricultural Placements	133	74	174	32	11	47

^{1/} The Colorado statewide totals for number and amount of benefit payments include counts relating to lost checks and previous benefit underpayments under the regular State Unemployment Insurance Program.

^{2/} Does not include count of claims made by Colorado unemployed whose benefits are a result of employment in another state.

^{3/} Money available from federal loan. Current loan outstanding as a result of previous borrowing is \$15,688,004.

AREA LABOR FORCE COMPARISONS *

	February 1985 - In Thousands							
	United States ^{1/}	Colorado ^{1/}	Arizona	Idaho	Montana	New Mexico	Utah	Wyoming
Civilian Labor Force	113,592	1,688.0	1,477.6	460.3	398.4	632.7	736.7	242.5
Unemployment	8,902	119.7	83.2	44.0	33.0	50.2	57.2	18.9
Unemployment Rate	7.8	7.1	5.6	9.6	8.3	7.9	7.8	7.8
Total Employment	104,690	1,568.3	1,394.4	416.3	365.4	582.5	679.5	223.6

* Estimates are not seasonally adjusted.

^{1/} Revised.